

DRAFT
(25 April 1960)

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Attachment to: SC-03005/60

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Plans)

THROUGH: Acting Chief, Developments Projects Division

SUBJECT: Requirements for System IV

1. On two major occasions the ARC has recommended the use of System IV:

a. For search in the Gulf of Finland area (4093, 7 November 1958), and

b. For search in the Barents Sea on the occasion of Russian maneuvers (2040, October 1957)

Other than these occasions, the System IV has not been used except for collection in the Black Sea incidental to checking out the gear.

2. The results from these missions are considered important, particularly a above, although not uniformly judged so among the components of the Intelligence Community. However, in looking toward the future use of System IV, an authoritative appraisal of the value received from these missions is not really necessary.

3. More pertinent to the question of future use are the following:

a. The ARC has not in the past, and cannot now, recommend in terms of priority national intelligence objectives the penetration of the USSR with System IV, believing as it does that photographic coverage is much more vital, and that any recommendation for penetration, at this

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b. The USAF considers that ELINT collection from periphery of Russia, including the Russian-Finnish border, the Gulf of Finland, and the Baltic Coast as far as BALTYSK, is within the jurisdiction of the Theater Commands. This view is confirmed by the JCS. Furthermore, it is the view of the USAF that the peripheral collection activities of the Commands on all areas, including that of the Russian-Finnish Border and the Gulf of Finland, is adequate to meet US intelligence needs. OSI does not share the latter view and is in disagreement with it particularly with regard to the Finnish-Russian border area.

4. In the light of the foregoing, the ARC finds itself unable to recommend the use of System IV by TALENT against any portion of the USSR whether through penetration or by peripheral means. It has already recommended (in reference) the modification and improvement of System VI which may accompany photographic collecting gear. It urges that whenever operationally feasible, System VI accompany TALENT missions.

RECOMMENDATION

5. That since the ARC cannot now, or in the foreseeable future, provide requirements for collection by System IV the Project considered the advisability of retiring System IV from TALENT collection gear and that it be stored under those conditions which would permit reactivation on three-months' notice should a justifiable requirement emerge.

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